

REMARKS

Claims 3-6 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-2 are cancelled, and claims 3 and 4 are amended. Support for these amendments can be found at least at page 10, line 24 - page 11, line 12; and page 12, lines 5-13.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Simitoski in the April 4 personal interview and the April 5 telephone interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully submitted.

I. Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,233,618 to Shannon. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 2 are cancelled, and thus the rejection of these claims is now moot.

Claims 3-6 are not anticipated by Shannon. Shannon does not disclose an information processing system that includes 1) "a storage media which stores a communication terminal ID assigned unique to each communication terminal used by a user and a personal ID assigned unique to each accessing user so that the communication terminal ID and the personal ID are correlated and which stores personal information of the user correlated with the personal ID," and 2) an "authentication means for allowing the user access to the personal information correlated with the personal ID of the user . . .," as recited in amended independent claim 3. Further, Shannon does not disclose an information processing method that includes "correlating personal information of the user based on the personal ID, and providing the user access to the personal information" as recited in amended independent claim 4.

In contrast, Shannon discloses that the client computers are assigned to various groups, and the users are only allowed to access data provided by servers based on each of the groups. See, e.g., Shannon, col. 6, lines 16-21 and lines 28-47. Each group has one or more associated client addresses and or user names identifying which users (via which client computer are in which groups). See, e.g., Shannon, col. 7, lines 21-25. The data provided by the servers based on each of the groups is based on a category database typically provided by a service organization. See, e.g., Shannon, col. 11, lines 16-56. As discussed during the personal interview, nowhere does Shannon discuss that the user has access to the personal information correlated to the personal ID as recited in claim 3, and as similarly recited in claim 4. That is, the various groups of Shannon do not have access to the data provided in the categories associated with each group.

However, the present invention is characterized in that the system having each of communication terminal ID correlated with personal ID, in a system having an authentication means for allowing the user access to personal information correlated with the personal ID, such as a schedule of the user. See, e.g., page 11, line 5. Therefore, the claimed invention is different from Shannon as Shannon fails to provide the claimed authentication means. Namely, the method and device disclosed in Shannon, does not provide the user access to the personal information or solve a problem related to authentication that occurs in a case where each of the (plurality of) communication terminals is used by a user (an identical user) as described in the claimed invention.

Thus, claims 3 and 4, and the claims dependent therefrom, are patentable over Shannon. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 3-6 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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